

**Amendments to the Drawings:**

The attached five Replacement Sheets of drawings include changes to all of FIGS. 1 to 5 and 6a, 6b, 6c, 6d, and 6e to improve the quality of the drawings and to add the page numbers. These sheets replace the original sheets depicting FIGS. 1-5, and 6a, 6b, 6c, 6d, and 6e. FIG. 3 has been amended to have the reference numeral 13 denote the user end with an arrow. Fig. 3 has been amended to change "VI" to "IV." In FIG. 6c, the lines from 11 have been made dashed. In FIG. 6d, the line from the uppermost 11 has been made dashed. FIG. 6e illustrates the features of claim 16.

Attachments: Five (5) Replacement Sheets of Drawings

### REMARKS

Reconsideration of this patent application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments, and the following remarks.

The amendments to this patent application are as follows.

On Page 2 of the office Action, there was an objection to a lack of paragraph numbers. On Page 4 of the Office Action, there was a specific objection to the paragraph added on Page 1 before line 1 that it should include a paragraph number. In response to this objection, the paragraph number "[001]" was added. Also in the new paragraph added to Page 17 of the Specification, the paragraph number "[46.5]" was added.

In the Abstract, the word "said" has been changed to the word "the."

Amendments to the drawings are as follows:

The attached five "Replacement Sheets" of drawings include changes to all of FIGS. 1 to 5 and 6a, 6b, 6c, 6d, and 6e to improve the quality of the drawings and to add the page numbers. These sheets replace the original sheets depicting FIGS. 1-5, and 6a, 6b, 6c, 6d, and 6e. FIG. 3 has been amended to have the reference numeral 13 denote the user end with an arrow. Fig. 3

has been amended to change "VI" to "IV." In FIG. 6c, the lines from 11 have been made dashed. In FIG. 6d, the line from the uppermost 11 has been made dashed. FIG. 6e illustrates the features of claim 16.

The amendments to the Specification are as follows. The required Section Headings have been added. On Page 1 minor revisions have been added. On Page 13 a brief discussion of FIG. 6e has been added. On Page 17 a detailed discussion of FIG. 6e has been added.

The amendments to the claims are as follows. Claims 1 and 26 are being amended to recite a first alternative embodiment "wherein said separate grip area has no remaining hooks."

In addition, two new claims are being added, namely, claim 27, which is based upon claim 1 and which recites a second alternative embodiment "wherein said separate grip area is of a different material than said closing area." Also being added is new claim 28, which is based upon claim 26 and recites this second alternative terminology that the "separate grip area is of a different material than the closing area."

Also on Page 4 of the Office Action, there were objections to claims 14, 15, and 26. In response to these objections, claim

14 has been amended to recite fastening tape "or" separate grip areas. Thus, the missing word has been added.

In claim 15, "the two" has been changed to the word "both."

In claim 26, at the end of the last line, a period "." has been added.

For all of the reasons set forth above, the Abstract, the Drawings, the Specification, and all the claims, have been amended so as to be in complete compliance with all the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 112. Withdrawal of these grounds of rejection is respectfully requested.

The Applicants comment upon the prior art rejections of the claims as follows.

Amended claim 1 and claim 26 comprise a limitation being directed to the omission of any hooks. Accordingly, this limitation is supported by paragraph [19] of the originally filed description, which is distinguishing the invention from *U.S. Patent No. 6,210,389 B1*. The basic idea is that no hooks have to be taken away in an aftertreatment step.

Newly added claims 27 and 28 are directed to the fact that

the closing area comprises a different material than the separate grip area, which is supported by the last sentence of paragraph [48] of the originally filed description. This also distinguishes over *U.S. Patent No. 6,210,389*.

The basic idea of the invention is that the grip area is designed for its special grip function whereas the closing area is designed for its special closing function. The omission of any hook material enables a person skilled in the art, to specialize each area with respect to its function.

Because there are now four (4) independent claims, enclosed is a check in the amount of \$220.00 to pay for adding one extra independent claim for a Large Entity. The Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee, or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 03-2468.

For all the reasons set forth above, no prior art reference provides an identical disclosure of the claimed invention. Hence, the present invention is not anticipated under 35 U.S.C. 102.

In view of these amendments, it is firmly believed that the present invention and all the claims are patentable under

35 U.S.C. 103 over all the prior art applied by the Patent Examiner. Withdrawal of these grounds of rejection is respectfully requested.

A prompt notification of allowability is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,  
Robert NEUGEBAUER ET AL.



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Enclosures:      1.    Petition for 2 Month Extension of Time  
                     2.    Attached 5 Sheets of Replacement Drawings  
                     3.    Check in the amount of \$220 to pay for extra  
                                 independent claim

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on May 14, 2009.



Amy Klein

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# APPENDIX